

APR 08 2008

Appl. No.: 10/540,812

Reply to Office Action of: 01/08/2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A connector, whereof a portion of a housing protrudes, and wherefor an electrical connection and mechanical fixation is achieved by said protruding portion being housed within a recessed portion of an opposing connector, characterized by:

the housing having a fixing portion fixed to a board, wherein said protruding portion is movable, and wherein the fixing portion and the protruding portion are separate from each other;

said protruding portion being supported by the housing fixing portion via contact portions;

said protruding portion having first stoppers that come into contact with the contact portions thereby stopping said protruding portion when the connector is inserted in the opposing connector; and

said contact portions having second stoppers, wherein the contact portions are movable at the second stoppers relative to the fixing portion, and wherein the second stoppers come into contact with the fixing portion when the fixing portion is moved in a direction away from the opposing connector thereby stopping said protruding portion when the connector is removed from the opposing connector, and wherein the connector

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comprises a gap between the second stoppers and the fixing portion to allow movement therebetween.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 1, characterized in that the contact portions are exposed on one surface or both surfaces of the protruding portion, and have touching portions that electrically connect to an opposing connector.

4. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 1, characterized in that the contact portions are aligned in a zigzag manner.

5. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 3, characterized in that the first stoppers are formed in the housing, restricting the movement of the protruding portion in both the insertion and removal directions of the connector.

6. (Previously presented) A connector comprising a housing including a fixing portion adapted to be fixed to a board and a movable protruding portion adapted to be housed within a recessed portion of an opposing connector, said fixing portion and said protruding portion being separate from each other, and said protruding portion being supported by the housing fixing portion via contact portions;

wherein said protruding portion comprises first stoppers adapted to come into contact with the contact portions thereby stopping said protruding portion when the connector is inserted in the opposing connector; and

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wherein said contact portions comprise second stoppers adapted to move toward the fixing portion and come into contact with the fixing portion when the fixing portion is moved in a direction away from the opposing connector thereby stopping said protruding portion when the connector is removed from the opposing connector.

7. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 6 wherein the contact portions are exposed on one surface or both surfaces of the protruding portion, and have touching portions which are adapted to electrically connect to the opposing connector.

8. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 6 wherein the contact portions are aligned in a zigzag manner.

9. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 6 wherein the first stoppers are formed in the housing, and restrict the movement of the protruding portion in both insertion and removal directions of the connector.

10. (Currently amended) A connector comprising:

a housing comprising a fixing portion and a movable protruding portion, wherein the fixing portion is adapted to be fixed to a board, wherein the movable protruding portion is adapted to be housed within a recessed portion of an opposing connector, wherein the fixing portion and the protruding portion are separate from each other, wherein the protruding portion is supported on the housing fixing portion by contact portions;

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wherein the protruding portion comprises first stoppers adapted to contact the contact portions to stop the protruding portion when the connector is inserted in the opposing connector; and

wherein the contact portions comprise second stoppers, wherein the second stoppers are spaced from sections of the fixing portion when the connector is inserted in the opposing connector, and wherein the second stoppers are adapted to contact ~~with~~ the sections of the fixing portion when the fixing portion is moved in a direction away from the opposing connector to stop the protruding portion when the connector is removed from the opposing connector.

11. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 10 wherein the contact portions are exposed on one surface or both surfaces of the protruding portion, and have touching portions which are adapted to electrically connect to the opposing connector.

12. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 10 wherein the contact portions are aligned in a zigzag manner.

13. (Previously presented) A connector recited in Claim 10 wherein the first stoppers are formed in the housing, and restrict the movement of the protruding portion in both insertion and removal directions of the connector.